

AMERICAN TROOPS ARE BELIEVED TO BE HOT ON TRAIL OF 'TANCHO' VILLA

WASHINGTON IS ENTIRELY IN DARK AS TO MOVEMENT OF AMERICANS

Impenetrable Veil of Secrecy Shrouds Whereabouts of General Pershing; President Is Uninformed.

VILLA BELIEVED FAR SOUTH OF FORCES

Huge Ring of Steel Is Being Formed by Carranza and United States About Bandits, Reports Assert.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Washington, March 16.—An impenetrable veil of secrecy surrounded tonight the movements of American troops beyond the Mexican border. So far as official Washington was advised, the columns might virtually have vanished into thin air when they crossed the international boundary yesterday in pursuit of Villa. Even the commander-in-chief, President Wilson, did not know where General Pershing's men were.

Secretary Baker received virtually no reports from General Funston dealing with events beyond the border. Late today he said he did not know whether the troops had proceeded southward from their first bivouac on Mexican soil last night. Not a single dispatch from the border was made public during the day except one reporting the death of Lieutenant Zell, Eleventh cavalry, at the Columbus hospital, where he took his own life in a fit of despondency.

Villa Far South of Pursuers. Army officials were convinced that no important developments were to be expected for several days. It seemed plain from the day's accumulation of rumors that Villa was far to the south of his American pursuers.

The war department would not divulge any details of the number of troops across the border or of the regiments sent. Press advisers, however, showed that infantry accompanied the cavalry and artillery out of Columbus in the main column. That means slow progress across the desert. It will take days, it is said, to cover the distance to Guadalupe, the last town where Villa was reported unofficially to have been seen.

Unrest at Tampico. American consuls in Mexico so far have been able to give little aid to the troops, although all are on watch for information that might indicate the bandits' movements. Consular advisers today continued to report generally quiet conditions. Officials displayed some concern over the situation in the Tampico district, however, where there are signs of unrest. The battleship Kentucky was ordered back to Vera Cruz from New Orleans, Secretary Daniels explaining that naval vessels now on the Mexican coast did not have radio equipment powerful enough to insure uninterrupted communication with Washington. With the Kentucky at Vera Cruz, reports from smaller vessels along the coast can be relayed quickly to Key West and Arlington.

One Consul Leaving. The state department denied that other American consuls than Consul Williams, at Torreon, were leaving their posts. Williams, they said, merely reported that he was leaving because of rumors. He did not specify the conditions which he viewed as

THE WEATHER
WEATHER FORECAST.
Denver, March 16.—New Mexico: Friday and Saturday fair; not much change in temperature.
LOCAL WEATHER REPORT.
For twenty-four hours, ending at 6 p. m. yesterday:
Maximum temperature, 75 degrees; minimum, 26 degrees; range, 49 degrees; temperature at 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon, 61 degrees; southwest winds; clear.
CITY BANK CLEARINGS.
Yesterday
\$61,638.71.

alarming. One other consul at first reported he would leave, but later changed his mind, saying the situation had cleared.

No reply has yet come from General Carranza to the American note announcing the acceptance of his proposal for reciprocal action on the border. The fact that his troops evidently are co-operating with the American columns is viewed as answer enough in itself for the time being. The international forces are forming a huge steel ring about the bandit's lair, slowly closing in from all sides.

Recruiting Progress. Reports from the scores of recruiting agencies reopened yesterday throughout the country began to filter into the war department today. They contained little definite information. By the end of the week Adjutant General McCain expects to have figures available on the number of applicants who have been accepted. When the depots turn in their first five-day report, however, a clear indication will be available as to the time it will take to enlist the 20,000 men congress has voted to add to the army immediately.

FORMER GOVERNOR THORNTON PASSES AWAY IN CAPITAL

Had Had Distinguished Career in Public Life; Native of Missouri and for Many Years a Friend of Maj. Palen.

(SPECIAL DISPATCH TO MORNING JOURNAL) Santa Fe, March 16.—William Taylor Thornton, former governor of New Mexico, died at St. Vincent's sanitarium about 9:30 o'clock tonight. He was 83 years of age. He was born the same year as Major Rufus J. Palen, whose funeral took place today. In fact, Major Palen, who was his friend for many years, was only twenty-seven days older. Ex-Governor Thornton was born in Claydon, Henry county, Missouri, on February 2, 1833. His father was Dr. W. Thornton, and his mother, Caroline V. Taylor, Governor Thornton received his education in private schools near Sedalia, Missouri, and afterwards graduated from the law department of the University of Kentucky. In 1861, at the age of 28, at about the same time that Major Palen enlisted in the union army, Governor Thornton enlisted as a private in the confederate army, serving with the army of General Sterling Price for two years. He was captured by union forces during the retreat of the confederates from Springfield, Missouri, in February, 1862, and was sent to Alton, Illinois, where he was kept in confinement for nearly a year, when he was exchanged and afterwards returned to the army, serving to the close of the war.

In 1875 Governor Thornton was elected a member of the legislature of his native state. His health partially failing, he came to Santa Fe in 1877, and was for a time associated as a law partner of United States Senator Thomas B. Catron. In 1889 he was elected a member of the legislative assembly, and in 1891 was chosen the first mayor of Santa Fe as the nominee of both political parties. In April, 1893, he was appointed governor of New Mexico by President Cleveland, and throughout his administration was a very stormy one he served his full term of four years. He was the owner, during the first Cleveland administration, of the Santa Fe New Mexican, and was its editor. Shortly after the nomination of his successor as governor by President McKinley he took up his residence at Guadalajara, Mexico, where he had extensive mining interests, and where almost twenty years ago he contracted the illness that culminated in his death tonight.

After Diaz was driven out of Mexico, Governor Thornton took up his residence at Redlands, California, but spent his summers in Santa Fe. He is survived by his wife. He had been ill for about two weeks.

REPRESENTATIVE OF CONSULATE MURDERED

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) El Paso, Tex., March 16.—The body of a Mexican found near the border at Columbus, N. M., yesterday was identified as J. Pereyra, personal representative of the Mexican consulate in El Paso. Pereyra had gone to Columbus prior to Villa's raid with instructions to watch Villa's movements. At the consulate here belief was expressed that Villa's men had captured and killed Pereyra.

FEARFUL LOSSES ARE INFLICTED UPON GERMANS BY FRENCH GUNS

Artillery Actions Are Violent From the Swiss Border to North Sea; Little Infantry Activities.

ITALIAN OFFENSIVE BECOMES VIGOROUS

Furious Austrian Attacks Are Launched Only to Be Broken by Heavy Fire of King Victor's Men.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Repulse at the hands of the French again has been the net result of German infantry attack launched with huge effectiveness after a heavy bombardment against French positions at Le Mort Homme northwest of Verdun. The Germans who attacked the fortified masses were driven eastward toward the Bois des Corbeaux where the French guns inflicted heavy casualties on them.

The attack at Le Mort Homme constituted the only infantry maneuver along the entire French front, but from Belgium to the Vosges artillery on both sides has been active at numerous points. Around Douaumont and the village of Vaux, the big guns are operating with redoubled violence, while southward in the Meuse hills continue.

Shell German Positions. In the Aronne forest the French guns still are shelling the German positions northwest of the road from Verdun and German batteries near Mont Facon.

The latest German official communication making reference to French attempts "to dispute our possession of the heights of Le Mort Homme" has brought forth a statement that the Germans never have gained a footing on the hill, which the French still hold. Only engagements between patrols have taken place on the Russian front.

Strong Italian Offensive. The Italians continue strongly in offensive against the Austrians on the Isonzo front especially on the Podgora heights sector and south-west of San Martino. On Podgora, the Italians entered the Austrian lines, but according to Vienna were repulsed in vicious hand to hand fighting.

Both Austrians and Italians lay claim to successes around San Martino. The Austrians assert that the Italians left numerous dead on the field. The Italian official statement declares that after severe artillery and musketry preparation the Austrians launched two strong attacks and succeeded in reaching the edge of the trenches taken from them recently, but were on each occasion repulsed, "leaving the ground covered with dead."

Sinking of Tubantia. The Dutch passenger steamer Tubantia bound from Holland for South America has been sunk by an explosion near the Noord Hinder lightship. All the passengers, among whom it is reported were several Americans and the members of the crew were saved. Whether the ship was torpedoed or struck a mine has not developed.

General Gallieni, the French minister of war, has resigned because of poor health. General Roques will succeed him.

A Berlin, semi-official dispatch gives an Athens report that British warships have bombarded Vola, near Smyrna, almost entirely destroying the town and killing a large number of Greeks, who constitute a majority of the population.

Cholera in Belgrade. London, March 16 (10:55 p. m.). Asiatic cholera has broken out at Belgrade, according to an Athens dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company. Fifty cases have been reported daily and thirty deaths have occurred. The people of Belgrade are suffering from a shortage of provisions and sanitary conditions are bad.

Canard Line Buys Ships. New York, March 16.—Announcement of the purchase of five steamships with a total tonnage of 31,067 tons gross, by the Canard line, was made by that company here today. The ships will be used to carry freight between this port and Great Britain. Officials of the line said the ships are already in its service. They are all of British register.

Canadian Embassador Caught. San Antonio, Tex., March 16.—Joseph Parsons Brown, wanted at Regina, Canada, on a charge of having embezzled between \$150,000 and \$200,000, was arrested here today by Charles Augustus Mahony, superintendent of the Canadian province police, assisted by local detectives. Brown, it is charged, obtained the money through government contract.

PERSHING MOVES STEADILY SOUTH; NO SNIPING IS REPORTED BY HIM

General Funston Has Brief News of Movements of Army Into Mexico, but Gives No News to Public.

NATIVES UNFRIENDLY TOWARD EXPEDITION

Little Indication of Assistance From Carranza Forces Has Materialized, Says Commander.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) San Antonio, Tex., March 16.—Somewhere south of New Mexico, perhaps twenty miles and possibly a great distance, General Pershing and the divided forces he is commanding, are encamped tonight. They have had no encounter with Mexicans and their progress into Mexico in search of Francisco Villa and his little army has been uninterrupted, according to the laconic messages received by General Funston.

"Merely ploughing their way through the desert sands," were the words of General Funston, in summarizing the day's developments.

Little Carranza Aid. The campaign is being conducted on the assumption that the de facto government's troops will co-operate in the efforts to destroy Villa and his followers, but, with the exception of the small garrison at Palomas, opposite Columbus, that joined General Pershing's column as scouts and guards, military headquarters here was without evidence tonight that active aid would be given by Carranza's army.

Gavira's Attitude. The statement of General Gavira, commander at Juarez, that, while he had given orders for co-operation in accordance with instructions from his government, he personally did not endorse such action, was the basis for comment by army men. By some of them, Gavira's attitude was taken as indicative of that of many Carranza officers, but those high in authority expressed the hope that discipline would prevail in all cases over personal opinion as it had in the case of General Gavira.

No Promise of Support. No concerted plan of action between the military men of the two countries has been agreed upon. The Americans are in Mexico relying upon the assumption that Carranza has accepted in good faith the note of the state department promising reciprocal privileges in chasing down bandits, and the unofficial report from Mexico City that orders had been issued for co-operation. Neither General Pershing nor General Funston have been given any direct promise of support.

Joint Action Not Necessary. It was pointed out, however, that co-operation need not necessarily mean joint action, and that possibly the Mexican army men would consider it the fulfillment of their part of the program if they continued independently their operations against Villa.

General Calles, commanding the Mexican troops in Sonora, is reported to have placed at strategic points in the eastern part of that state some 5,000 men to prevent the entry of Villa, and Gen. Luis Gutierrez is supposed to be directing five columns in Chihuahua to prevent the fugitive rebel from making his escape over the trails to the south or east.

No Clash With Carranza. A clash between any of the Carranza troops and the Americans is not anticipated by the American army officers, but the danger that some small mutinous band might attack a detachment of the American punitive force has not been ignored. Should such an incident occur, army men here say, it could scarcely be due to mistaken identity, since the uniform, equipment and general appearance of the Americans is sufficiently unusual in Mexico as to make confusion impossible.

General Funston's attitude towards General Pershing is very similar to that adopted towards him by the war department. To a great extent the details of the expedition have been left to General Pershing and his commanding officers and he is not bothering him or expecting from him reports other than those regarded by General Pershing as essential.

Secrecy Is Maintained. Secrecy has yet been maintained as to the exact disposition of the punitive force, its composition and future movements. In general, it is admitted the juncture of columns now heading south will be made before the end of the week, perhaps Saturday, when they will be some fifty miles south of the international boundary line.

General Pershing will maintain his communication by means of wireless

and courier, automobile and aeroplane being at his disposition for the latter. General Funston arranged today for a direct telegraph wire from El Paso to Fort Sam Houston in order that there might be no little delay as possible in receiving General Pershing's reports, and the problem of preventing amateurs interfering with the transmission of wireless reports was discussed with agents of the police.

Censorship on Border. The censorship at the border is being maintained. Here no censorship has been established, but other precautions have been taken to prevent unauthorized publicity of military news.

General Funston and his staff were busy today carrying out the details of the plan for strengthening the border patrols and of having ready men and supplies should they be required in Mexico. More troops arrived at Columbus and other points near the New Mexico border, where they will be held in readiness to rush forward should their services be needed.

Rumors of an unfriendly attitude assumed by Mexicans generally towards Americans in Mexico continued to be received at General Funston's headquarters but these were not taken with great seriousness, although it was admitted they tended to show that unofficially the interference of Americans in what many people of the country regarded as their own affair, was unwelcome.

In no report of General Pershing to General Funston has there been any mention of sniping or other aggression by Mexicans. The last report was received after 6 o'clock tonight.

No Rioting at Lordsburg. Nogales, Ariz., March 16.—Denial of reports of rioting among Mexican miners at Lordsburg was made tonight by Undersecretary Allen at that place. He said 200 miners were peacefully at work, with no sign of trouble anywhere in that district.

ADMINISTRATION ROUNDLY SCORED BY SENATOR LODGE

Blames President for Not Intervening When Belgium Was Invaded and for Leniency With Mexico.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) Lynn, Mass., March 16.—The administration at Washington was severely criticized tonight by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge in an address during which he announced his candidacy for re-election. He spoke before the Lynn Republican club. "In my own opinion," he said, "with the exception of the administration of Buchanan, there has been no administration in power which has been so injurious to the United States both at home and abroad as that now in control at Washington."

Defense Plans Inadequate. After condemning the tariff and taxation legislation enacted by a democratic congress, Senator Lodge turned to the foreign policies of the administration. He said the plans for national defense suggested by President Wilson "proved on analysis to be partly shams and wholly inadequate." Continuing he said:

"The responsibility for the conditions in Mexico largely on the government of the United States. The present administration found Mexico and Mexican relations in bad condition. They have made these bad conditions infinitely worse."

Huerta Policy Bad. "The result of the president's war against General Huerta was the destruction of the only government that offered any prospect of order or peace or responsibility. The murderers and bandits favored by the administration in preference to General Huerta who also was a murderer, have been despoiling the country and fighting among themselves ever since. Out of this miserable tragedy, one thing commands our attention above all others. Americans have been murdered in Mexico, soldiers wearing the American uniform have been shot on the soil of the United States."

Blames Administration. "The Americans robbed and slain in Mexico were entitled to our protection both for their property and their lives. They have had none. Within a year, Mexicans have invaded the United States, either with the weak aid of our neighbor nations, or with the strongest nations of the world such as Great Britain and Germany, both of whom because of the excitement and stress of a life and death struggle have disregarded in various ways the international law and our legal rights. An administration less wise and less thoughtful might easily have been swept into war with Mexico, with Germany and Austria, or with Great Britain and its allies."

Favors Roosevelt Program. "We made no attempt," he went on, "to unite under our leadership all the neutral powers of Europe and America in defense of neutral rights. Such a league would have had a powerful influence and prevented some of the horrors of the war and saved us from some of the difficult and dangerous controversies which now menace us."

"More than a hundred American men, women and children, rightfully on board the Lusitania, were sent to

TWO CAVALRY REGIMENTS FROM HACHITA ARE BEING GUIDED BY MORMONS TO CAMP OF NOTED BANDIT

IMPORTANT NEWS IS BROUGHT INTO EL PASO AND FORWARDED AT ONCE TO GENERAL PERSHING

Speculation Continues as to What Course Will Be Pursued by Outlaw Chief; Belief Prevails That He Will Take to Mountain Passes and Will Never Be Captured Unless Price Is Put on His Head; Ideal Weather Conditions Surround Advance of Soldiers Into Interior of Mexico; Report That Carranza Troops Have Joined United States Forces Is Flatly Denied by Carranza Commander at Juarez.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE) El Paso, Tex., March 16.—The Seventh and Tenth cavalry, said to be advancing into Mexico by forced marches from Culberson's ranch near Hachita, N. M., were nearing the Villa territory in the Casas Grandes region tonight, according to the most reliable information which could be obtained here.

These troops are reported to be marching with the minimum of equipment and to be led by Mormon scouts from the Mormon colonies at Colonia Dublan and Colonia Moriles. From their point of departure the distance is eighty-five miles to Casas Grandes and the start was made early yesterday morning. If Villa intends to offer any organized resistance to his pursuers it might be possible for United States soldiers to come in contact with his outlying posts very soon.

Weather Conditions Ideal. "The American expedition is penetrating Mexico under ideal weather conditions. The hot season will not be reached for a month or six weeks and if the windmill wells which dot part of the country through which the expedition is passing are not dried up, the water supply situation should be relieved. Clear moonlight nights make it possible to see after dark for some distance. Definite information that the Mormon settlements with their 500 American men, women and children were safe and unmolested was brought here today by Daniel Hurst, son of P. H. Hurst, the Mormon bishop or president here. Mr. Hurst brought news understood to be of much military importance which was forwarded to General Pershing.

Mr. Hurst refused to make public its nature or details.

About 500 Men With Villa. According to Mr. Hurst, Villa has at most 400 men, some of whom are wounded. He said also that it was not believed in the Mormon colonies that the bandit chief had more than 500 men with him when he raided Columbus.

What the intentions of Villa are remain a profound mystery here. Andreas Garcia, the Carranza consul here, asserted today that from information in his possession he was satisfied that Villa has distanced most of his men and intended to take refuge in the heart of the Sierra Madre with only three or four trusted companions.

Large Force Not Needed. "Thousands of men are not wanted to pursue Villa," said Consul Garcia. "He has no intention of fighting anyone but will take refuge in the mountains which he knows so well. He will be captured, I believe, when a price is put on his head."

A flat denial that there were any Carranza troops with the American expedition was made today by General Gavira, the Carranza commander at Juarez. General Gavira made this statement after being informed that the story of Mexican soldiers with General Pershing came from American headquarters at San Antonio. He declared that the troops of General Calles, who were reported to be with the American troops, were scattered between Chihuahua, Madera, Pearson and Guzman and that General Bertani with an escort was at Juarez. All efforts to find General Bertani at Juarez failed.

Fresh troops have arrived at Juarez, but the Mexican authorities would give no information as to the number of men now in garrison here. Long trains loaded with flour and other provisions crossed the Rio Grande from the American side today but their destination was kept secret.

Oregon Appointment a Mystery. One subject of much speculation on both sides of the border is the exact meaning of the appointment of General Oregon as minister of war. Opinions among Americans familiar with Mexico and its politics are sharply divided. One camp insists that Ob-

their death without warning and nothing has yet been done except pour out warnings and carry on inconclusive negotiations for eight months.

Not until February 25 when the president's note to Senator Stone appeared was any real step taken to protect Americans in their rights and that step, which the president then took in words boldly and clearly, but in words alone, came only because his own party in the house were clamoring for the public surrender of American rights in order to conciliate one belligerent and its voters, the democratic party showed itself to be worse than its own administration. There is, it would seem, a point of humiliation at which the president stops, definitely, I trust, firmly, I hope. There is no such point apparently to be found in the action of the party to which he belongs.

Peace Claim Discussed. "We are told the great cry of the democratic party is to be that their president has kept peace. The virtue of keeping the peace depends altogether on how it is kept. You can always keep the peace if you submit to any wrong, to any outrage, to any oppression. The peace of this country would have been far better kept, we should be in far less danger of war today, or of war when peace comes along the warring nations of Europe, if we had kept it without humiliation, kept it in honor and without fear.

"We all want peace, we all are against war if it can possibly be avoided, but we shall insist, we republicans at least, that American rights shall be protected at home and abroad."

SENATOR OWEN DEFENDS WILSON ADMINISTRATION

Concord, N. H., March 16.—A detailed eulogy of the work of the executive and legislative branches of the federal government under democratic control, was delivered by United States Senator Robert L. Owen, of Oklahoma, at a Jackson day dinner of New Hampshire democrats here tonight. Senator Owen took up the important measures passed by congress since the inauguration of President Wilson, summarizing his conclusions thus:

"All these bills—the tariff bill, the federal reserve act, the Clayton antitrust bill, the federal trade commission bill, the seat of government bill, the promotion of commerce act, the promotion of monopoly, the betterment of mankind, the lowering of the cost of living and the greater happiness of all our people."

Senator Owen praised the work of the various executive departments and continued:

"Perhaps the greatest accomplishment, the one for which our people are more deeply grateful than any other, is that the president has kept us out of war and in a condition of profound peace while all the world beside seems torn with war or imminent violence. Under extreme provocation the president has nevertheless used his great powers and his great influence against any act that would involve the people of the United States in war, either with the weak of our neighbor nations, or with the strongest nations of the world such as Great Britain and Germany, both of whom because of the excitement and stress of a life and death struggle have disregarded in various ways the international law and our legal rights. An administration less wise and less thoughtful might easily have been swept into war with Mexico, with Germany and Austria, or with Great Britain and its allies."

Ordered to Mexican Service. Vancouver, Wash., March 16.—Capt. Murray Baldwin, of the Twenty-first infantry, stationed here, received orders today to proceed at once to El Paso, Tex., and join the quartermaster's department in charge of automobile truck No. 2 in the expedition into Mexico. He left tonight.

The Day in Congress

SENATE.

Resumed debate on public lands water power bill.

Military affairs committee worked on army reorganization bill report.

Agricultural committee considered bill for government nitrate production plant.

Passed bill to appropriate \$2,506,000 for equipping Puget sound navy yard to build battleships.

Military service committee completed drafting administration army increase and reorganization bill and ordered it favorably reported.

Adjourned at 5:35 p. m. to noon, Friday.

HOUSE.

Resumed debate on free sugar repeal.

Hear Admiral Benson testified before naval committee on navy operations.

Passed, 346 to 14, bill to repeal provision of tariff law which would put sugar on free list after May 1.